

<p align="center"><b>REQUEST For CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b></p> <p align="center">Address to: <b>MAIL STOP RCE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22304-1450</b></p> <p>(Revised 04/2005)</p>	Application Number 09/684,949
	Filing Date October 10, 2000
	First Named Inventor: D'Souza
	Art Unit: 2683
	Examiner Name: S. M. D Agosta
	Confirmation No.: 2913
	Attorney Docket No. 042933/299797
<p>This is a request for <u>Continued Examination (RCE)</u> under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.</p>	

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114** Note: if the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavits(s)/Declarations(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS); of cites listed on PTO Form 1449
- iv. ☐ Other

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other

11/29/2005 SSITHIB1-00000020-09648949

01 FC:1801

790.00 OP

11/29/2005 SSITHIB1 00000041 09684949

02 FC:1801  
03 FC:1201

790.00 OP  
400.00 OP

11/29/2005 SSITHIB1-00000020-09648949  
03 FC:1201

200.00 OP

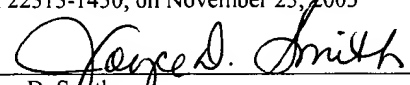
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is **required** by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)  
(\$790.00 large entity; \$395.00 small entity)
- ii. ☒ Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☒ Amendment Transmittal Sheet indicating additional claim fee
- b. ☒ Checks in the amounts of \$790.00; \$450.00; \$400.00 are enclosed

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher J. Gegg  
Registration No. 50,857

**Customer No. 00826**  
**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**  
Bank of America Plaza  
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000  
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000  
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000  
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111  
#4768076v1

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.  _____ Date	I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 23, 2005   _____ Joyce D. Smith